

March 3, 1992

Docket No. 50-423

Mr. John F. Opeka
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Connecticut Yankee Atomic Power Company
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company
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Dear Mr. Opeka:

SUBJECT: MILLSTONE UNIT 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT - APPLICATION FOR LICENSE AMENDMENT CONCERNING EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATOR RELIABILITY AND AVAILABILITY (TAC NO. M76644)

Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact which relates to your request for license amendment dated March 28, 1990, as supplemented July 24, 1990 and November 22, 1991, regarding changes in the Technical Specifications dealing with emergency diesel generator surveillance testing.

This assessment is being forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

/s/

Vernon L. Rooney, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY
MILLSTONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION, UNIT NO. 3
DOCKET NO. 50-423
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF
NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of a license amendment to Northeast Nuclear Energy Company, et al. (the licensee) for the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 3, located at the licensee's site in New London County, Connecticut.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed amendment would:

- Improve overall diesel generator reliability and performance by conforming plant requirements to NRC Generic Letter 84-15.
- Reduce the diesel generator loading criteria in order to ensure that operations at the upper limit of the load band do not lead to overload conditions.
- Eliminate the fast cold repetitive starting of the diesel generators, and make changes concerning instrumentation and test standards. In addition, clarify the remedial measure for inoperability of the required full capacity battery chargers.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The license amendment is needed to enhance diesel generator reliability by minimizing severe test conditions which can lead to premature failure.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to the TS. The impact of the above change has been evaluated in the licensee's proposal for amendment dated March 28, 1990 which has been evaluated by the staff using NRC-approved methodology. The TS change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents. No changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. In addition, the TS change described is a refinement, rather than a substantial change in the operation of the facility. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with this proposed TS amendment.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed amendment does involve features located entirely within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

It has been concluded that there is no measurable impact associated with the proposed amendment; any alternatives to the amendment would have either essentially the same or greater environmental impact.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources different from or beyond the scope of resources used during normal plant operation, which were assessed in the Final Environmental Statement relating to plant operation.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The Commission's staff reviewed the licensee's request that supports the proposed amendment. The staff did not consult other agencies or persons.

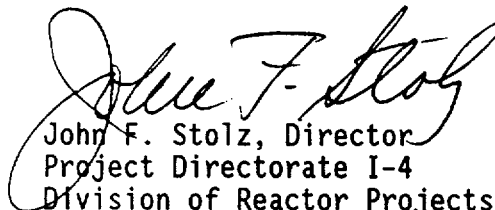
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed amendment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the request for license amendment dated March 25, 1990, as supplemented July 24, 1990, and November 22, 1991, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555, and at the local public document room located at the Learning Resources Center, Thames Valley State Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut 06360.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 3rd day of March 1992.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



John F. Stolz, Director
Project Directorate I-4
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation